

U.S. Application No.: NEW
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

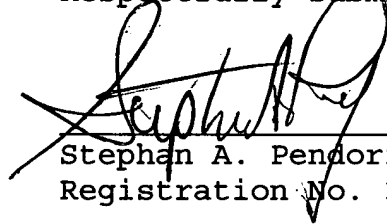
Attorney Docket: 3926.124

REMARKS

The claims have been amended in order to eliminate multiple dependent claims and claims improperly depending from multiple dependent claims, and to otherwise conform the claims to U.S. practice. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter is added to the text.

Entry and favorable consideration prior to consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephan A. Pendorf', is written over a horizontal line.

Stephan A. Pendorf
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Date: **December 20, 2004**